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**Reply to: Tampa, FL**

September 27, 2001

**DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON**

**Tampa, FL** - Chief Federal Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich today sentenced RAUL PEREZ, AKA FRANKY ALLEN, age 50, to a term of life in prison for his role in a cocaine distribution conspiracy dating from 1994 - 1999. PEREZ pled guilty to the conspiracy charge on November 17, 1999.

The defendant's son YIMIAN PEREZ, age 29, is presently serving a 15-year and 8-month sentence for the same conspiracy charge. His other son, ISABEL PEREZ, age 30, is scheduled for trial in October in the same case.

This case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration(DEA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, and the Tampa Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jim Preston of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCEDTF) in the Middle District of Florida.